Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Sycamore Park District
Tuesday, November 25, 2025

The regular meeting of the Sycamore Park District Board of Commissioners, DeKalb County, Illinois, being held at the Sycamore Golf Club, A Facility of the Sycamore Park District in the Riverview Room located at 940 E. State St, Sycamore, Illinois is called to order at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 25, 2025.

Will the recording secretary please call the roll.

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are physically present and will be participating in the meeting in person: **Commissioners Ackmann, Doty, Jewett, and Kroeger.**

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are not physically present but will be participating in the meeting via video and/or audio conferencing: **None.**

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are not physically present and will not be participating in the meeting. **Commissioner Graves**

Staff members present were Director Bailey, Jeff Donahoe, Jeanette Freeman, Jackie Hienbuecher, Lisa Metcalf, and Paul Price.

Guests at the Board meeting were:
Jake Fowler
Aaron Gold – Speer Financial
Sarah Johnson – Speer Financial

Regular and Consent Agenda Approval –

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the Regular Agenda and the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Ackmann seconded the Motion.

Voice Vote

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Approval of Minutes –

Motion

Commissioner Jewett moved to approve the October 28, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

Voice Vote

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Claims and Accounts Approval

Motion

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve and pay the bills in the amount of $177,291.51. Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion**.**

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Award Bid for annual GO Bond: Aaron Gold with Speer Financial noted they had a very competitive bid process. He is recommending approval of the bid from Time Bank in Park Ridge, Illinois at the revised price of $738,410 at 3.08%. They anticipate closing will be on December 10 with a maturity date of December 15, 2026.

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to accept the bid from Time Bank. Commissioner Jewett seconded the Motion**.**

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Correspondence –

- Sycamore Chamber Thank You Letter

Public Input – None

Positive Feedback:

- Commissioner Doty noted he enjoyed the park tour and appreciated the staff's effort to put this together.
- Commissioner Jewett noted he wanted to thank Jeff and that he learned a lot.
- President Kroeger also noted he appreciated the tour. Seeing the new park was great.
- Supt. Price noted they closed out the golf season today. The total rounds for the year were 36,182 which was up from last year. He thanked Jeff and his crew for the great ground's conditions.
- Commissioner Doty mentioned the podcast that Director Bailey is doing.

Plan Commission: Commissioner Graves was not at the Park Board meeting, but he informed Director Bailey there was no November meeting.

Old Business:

Construction Updates:

- **Community Center**:
  - Butterfly Garden: Director Bailey noted the planting of the butterfly garden in front of the community center has been finished. There were 1550 plugs with twenty-three different species. There were around fourteen volunteers that helped with it.
  - Patio Shade: Director Bailey noted the base is in and will be finished in the spring.
- **GWT:** Director Bailey noted this came in below the engineer's estimate.
- **North Grove:** Director Bailey noted this is officially opened and we will have a grand opening in the spring.
- **Skate Spot:** Director Bailey noted it is officially opened. Fargo Skateboarding had a grill and chill day that went really well. It has been getting used every day.

New Business:

Great Western Trail Bid Review: Director Bailey noted we have no control over the bid since it is through IDOT. We can only concur with the bid. Martin & Company was the lowest bid and came in at 15% below the engineer's cost. IDOT's recommendation is to go with Martin & Company. We just need to officially acknowledge it as a board.

Motion

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve the low bid for the Great Western Trail expansion. Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion**.**

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Pool Building bid review: This will be discussed in executive session.

Clubhouse Bathroom renovation: Supt. Price noted they looked at the bathrooms last year and determined this is an area of the clubhouse that has not been upgraded. They all felt it is in our best interest to allocate funds to remodel the bathroom. There was some discussion on this. Director Bailey noted one major change needed was adding another stall in the men's bathroom. She also noted that they need to make the stalls wider in the women's to be ADA accessible. Supt. Price noted that the ADA compliance is a big part of it. When the ADA review was done, both bathrooms were out of compliance. This renovation will give us the opportunity to take care of that.

Motion

Commissioner Jewett moved to approve the funding of $70,800 for the men's and women's bathroom. Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion**.**

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Capital Budget first draft: Supt. Hienbuecher noted this is the first draft. It is close to being finalized.

Resolution 02-2025: A resolution determining the amounts of money exclusive of election costs estimated to be necessary to be raised by taxation pursuant to the proposed levy of the Sycamore Park District: Supt Hienbuecher noted this is the same thing we do every year. This is not a binding document, but we are required to make notice of what the estimate is 20 days prior to adoption. She went over the different options we can go with. There was a consensus to go with Option 2.

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the Resolution 02-2025: A resolution determining the amounts of money exclusive of election costs estimated to be necessary to be raised by taxation pursuant to the proposed levy of the Sycamore Park District. Commissioner Jewett seconded the Motion**.**

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Ordinance 05-2025: AN ORDINANCE providing for the issue of $738,410 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025, of the Sycamore Park District, DeKalb County, Illinois for the payment of land condemned or purchased for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of said Park District, to provide the revenue source for the payment of certain outstanding alternate bonds of said Park District and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof.

Motion

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve the Ordinance 05-2025: AN ORDINANCE providing for the issue of $738,410 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025, of the Sycamore Park District, DeKalb County, Illinois for the payment of land condemned or purchased for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of said Park District, to provide the revenue source for the payment of certain outstanding alternate bonds of said Park District and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof. Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion**.**

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Public Input – None

Special Announcements –

Study Session: December - None was scheduled.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session to go into Executive Session at 6:42 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Ackmann for the reasons listed below. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Doty.

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.
5. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired.

The Board convened to Executive Session at 6:45 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Ackmann, Doty, Jewett, and Kroeger present along with Director Jonelle Bailey, Recording Secretary Freeman, Supt. Hienbuecher, Supt. Donahoe, Supt. Metcalf and Supt. Price.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Executive Session at 7:20 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Jewett. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ackmann.

Voice Vote

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

The Board reconvened to Regular Session at 7:20 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Ackmann, Doty, Jewett and Kroeger present.

Pool Building Bid Review and vote:

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the bid from Fowler Enterprises, LLC in the amount of $112,325.00 for the pool building demolition. Commissioner Ackmann seconded the Motion**.**

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session at 7:20 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Jewett. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Doty.

Voice Vote

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Jeanette Freeman

Recording Secretary
Sycamore Park District